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Message Text

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11
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-10 GSA-02

/048 W
---------- 068439
R 100714Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8720
INFO USMISSION IAEA GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
ERDA HQ GERMANTOWN
ERDA HQ WASHDC

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5779

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, TECH, AS
SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN URANIUM ENRICHMENT SCHEMES

REF: CANBERRA 4839; STATE 66847 (1975)

1. BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY CO. LTD. (BHP) IS REPORTED TO BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A PRIVATE CONSORTIUM TO BUILD A URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY IN AUSTRALIA. BHP IS ALSO PLANNING TO ACQUIRE AN INTEREST IN THE KOONGARRA DEPOSIT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY. NORANDA, A CANADIAN COMPANY, CURRENTLY HAS 100 PERCENT EQUITY IN THE KOONGARRA DEPOSIT.

2. CONZINC RIOTINTO OF AUSTRALIA (CRA) IS REVIEWING THE RECENTLY RELEASED SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT STUDY RECOMMENDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY AT REDCLIFFE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA (REFTEL). WESTERN MINING CORP. LTD. HAS ALSO SHOWN INTEREST IN URANIUM ENRICHMENT PROJECTS.

3. THE AUSTRALIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IS REPORTEDLY
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ENCOURAGING AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES TO FORM A CONSORTIUM TO

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DEVELOP A DOMESTIC URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY. PRIVATE ACTIVITY IN THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT FIELD HAS THE COMPLETE SUPPORT OF THE GOA, SUBJECT TO THE OUTCOME OF THE RANGER (FOX) INQUIRY. CURRENT GOA SUPPORT FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IS A COMPLETE REVERSAL OF THE FORMER LABOR GOVERNMENT POLICY WHEREBY THE GOA WOULD CONTROL ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES.
HARGROVE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760307-0309
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760870/aaaacixd.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, TECH, AS, BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY CO LTD, BHP
To: STATE
Type: TE
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